

In the Specification:

Please amend the specification as shown:

Please replace the paragraph at page 6, line 30, to page 7, line 2 and insert therefor:

Figure 1 shows the amino acid sequence of MCP-2 (**SEQ ID NO: 1**) and of its known variant (**SEQ ID NO: 2**). Signal sequences are reported in *italics*, whereas C -residues are in **bold**. Arrows indicate the first amino acids of the amino-terminally truncated MCP-2(6-76) of the invention. Underlined is the amino acid, which is different in the MCP-2 variant.

Please replace the paragraph on page 7, lines 14-17, and insert therefor:

Figures 4A + 4B: Natural MCP-2 (Figure 4B) is a weaker agonist than MCP-1 (Figure 4A) to mobilize calcium and monocytes. Intact MCP-2 (15, 50 and 150 ng/ml) dose-dependently increases the $[Ca^{2+}]_i$ in THP-1 cells. The result of one representative experiment out of two is shown.

Please replace the table at page 12, lines 6-26, with the following table:

TABLE I

Biochemical characterization of natural forms of MCP-2. NH₂-terminal amino acid sequence analysis and comparison of the experimental (SDS-PAGE and MALDI/TOF-MS) and theoretical Mr of C-8 RP-HPLC purified natural MCP-isoforms.

MCP-form	NH ₂ -terminal sequence	Mr (Da)		
		theoretical unglycosylated	SDS-PAGE	MALDI/TOF-MS
MCP-2 (1-76)	blocked	8893	7500	8881

MCP-2 (2-76)	SIPITCC <u>(residues 6-12</u> <u>of the mature</u> <u>portion of SEQ</u> <u>ID NOS 1 & 2, or</u> <u>residues 1-7 of</u> <u>SEQ ID NOS 3 &</u> <u>4)</u>	8384	7000	8365
--------------	--	------	------	------